

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes – Monthly Meeting
February 21, 2007

Members Present: Jim DuBois
Hank Corcoran-Boyer
Jerry Ivey
Nita Klug
Pat Grimwood

Others Present: Steve Snyder, Director
Randi Clifford, Recreation Superintendent
Travis Scheele, Athletic Supervisor
Bob Ash, Park Superintendent
Tim Kerbs, Recreation Supervisor
Darin Stineman, Salina Journal

Jim DuBois called the meeting to order at 4:02p.m.

I. REPORTS

A. Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting were approved 4-0 as printed.

B. Citizens Forum

None

C. Activity Reports

1. Participation Report

Randi reviewed the participation reports for December and January. December participation was up considerably from last year. Adult athletics had volleyball numbers that were very strong; we added a coed division in the winter season which we have not had in the past. We were able to add another night at K-State Salina to offer this. Instructional programs are down some but the timing on some programs reflects this. Our spectator numbers are up considerably due to a couple reasons, one being Travis working closely with his supervisors to get more accurate counts, and the attendance has really improved, especially in our youth basketball leagues. At the Golf Course, December had a good month with the weather conditions being pretty mild until the end of the month, then January those numbers dropped off due to the weather.

January participation was also up some from last year. Adult athletics had good participation and Natural Resources held the Water Fest, a co-sponsored event at Kansas Wesleyan which had great attendance. Special population programs continue to grow as we build the program back up with the new staff offering new and different programs.

2. Recreation Report

The spring brochure/activities guide was released at the end of January, and registration began for those activities on February 12th. We are starting to gear up and get ready for summer employment, and the preparations that go into summer programs. Mailings for adult and youth baseball and softball are being prepared and we are making a couple policy changes this year. One, will be doing back ground checks on all of our volunteer coaches, we will also be requiring birth certificates when signing up for youth baseball/softball. Some big events we have already starting working on are the

Community Easter Egg Hunt and the Golden Years Spring Festival which are both coming up in April. We are forming committees for both adult and youth sports to get input on rule changes and other procedures, hoping to improve programs.

3. Park Report

Bob went over the annual Park & Forestry report. We keep track of all shelter and gazebo reservations each year. The five most popular locations haven't changed, just the order. Bob also reported on vandalism, over the years the number of cases hasn't changed that much but what has is the cost per incident. In 2001, the average cost per incident was \$139 and in 2006 it was \$409. Bob also reviewed the yard waste report. This program started in 1996, but in 2004 the number peaked and then the number began decreasing. The reason for that is since 2004 the gate has been left open and people drop off brush throughout the year. Throughout the year we are getting a lot more material but not on the actual yard waste days, the numbers have decreased somewhat and the cost has increased.

II. PETITIONS and COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letters

1. Jim Allen wrote thanking us for replacing their family grave stone in a timely matter. As happens once in awhile when mowing at the cemetery, we bump the stones and if unable to repair we have to replace those as in this case. Mr. Allen wrote to thank us for the timely consideration.
2. Chester Bro wrote to thank us for helping during the last snow to assist him on his property. This is a service we offer to help citizens with snow removal if needed for either medical or financial reasons.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Old Business: Steve updated the board on neighborhood fees and policies. He took the recommendations to the city commission on February 5th and they did approve the resolution as presented.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Last year at this time the board discussed new goals for the department. When Jason Gage became the city manager he asked staff to highlight the accomplishment the department achieved, as well as some of the board actions. He also asked departments to establish three to five goals.

Steve reviewed the 2006 goals and their importance. Though none were accomplished, several were discussed by the City Commission and are projects that continue to be topics of need. These included the aquatics park and indoor recreation center. A third goal that is continually being worked on is development of Neighborhood Parks. Two other goals, Park & Recreation master planning and developing a dedicated funding source are still high priority for staff but will take additional time to implement. The board agreed that these five goals are important and recommended including these as department goals for 2007. The motion was approved 5-0.

There being no further Parks & Recreation business, a motion was made to adjourn the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting at 4:38p.m.